

Santa Barbara County

Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Santa Barbara County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$1,080,148.00
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$1,080,148.00
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$360,049.33
Total System Cost	\$1,440,198.00

New Equipment:

Accu-Vote Precinct Ballot Tabulators – 190 Units

Precinct Voting & Absentee Voting System:

Diebold Accu-Vote ES –2000 (Optical Scan)

Vendor:

Diebold Election Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Santa Barbara has secured the new vote counting equipment and this new equipment was fully implemented during the March 2000 Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

The new ballot counting system was fully implemented during the March 2000 Primary Election.

Staff Recommendation:

Santa Barbara County's "Project Documentation Package" meets the requirements for completeness. The new precinct level ballot counting equipment assists with automating "ballot layout", provides earlier election returns and has the capability to automate absentee ballot processing. The new system is less confusing to voters and makes the poll worker's job easier because the system allows voters to vote on a single ballot instead of having five or six cards that were needed under the previous system.

This new equipment significantly reduces the amount of time it takes to produce election results on Election Day. With the previous system it took Santa Barbara County several hours to report their returns, however with the new equipment results can now be generated in just over an hour.

Santa Barbara County's optical scan equipment does not fully address the new state and federal requirements for accessibility. However, they anticipate that additional federal funding will be available for purchasing additional voting equipment to meet the new requirements and they plan to acquire this new equipment at that time.

It is our recommendation to approve Santa Barbara County's "Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$1,080,148.00.
